FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 084 *1 May 1981*

ARGENTINA

Dispute Continues With Chile Along Border B 1
Troops, Materiel Go to Border B 1
III Corps Commander to Capital B 1
Air Commander to Rio Gallegos B 1
Border Open for Third Parties B 2
Galtieri on Troop Movements B 2
Prisoner Exchange Suggested B 3
Border Areas Reported Calm B 3
Officers' Wives Return B 4
Correction to Report on Government Protest B 4
Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ends Visit B 4
Joint Statement Issued [Baghdad] B 5

CHILE

Espionage Dispute With Argentina Continues E 1
Illegal Pictures Described E 1
Argentine Envoy on Situation E 1
Foreign Minister on Situation E 2
'Absolute Calm' in Country E 3
Government Uneasy, Surprised E 3
Equatorial Guinea Vice President Continues Visit E 3
Signs Cooperation Agreement E 3
Asks for Copy of Constitution E 3

COLOMBIA

Army Dismantle M-19 Shock Troop in Yurayucu F 1
M-19 Leader Toledo Plata Denies Training in Cuba [Havana] F 1
Six Nicaraguans Seek Asylum on San Andres Island F 1

PERU

Government, Military Agree on Oil Policy J 1
Equatorial Guinea Vice President Ends Visit J 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Case of Missing Priest May Affect Relations With U.S. P 1
Paper Scores Supporters of Washington Rally P 1
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 30 Apr]
Political Group Issues Call to 'Silent Majority' P 2
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 29 Apr]
FMLN Member Reaffirms Willingness To Negotiate P 3
Police Search Homes in San Salvador District P 3
Over 300 Schools Close; Teachers Flee Country P 4
[Radio Venceremos]
Continuation of Interview With Cayetano Carpio P 4
[cross-reference]

GUATEMALA

Oil Pipeline Damaged; Military Patrol Attacked P 4

HONDURAS

8 Killed in New Clash at Border With Nicaragua P 5
Further Details P 5
Solidarity Committee Reports 'Coup Plans' by Army P 5
Press Secretary Comments P 6
Border With Nicaragua Reopened to Cargo, People P 7
Briefs: Increased Export Revenue; New FESITRANH President P 7

NICARAGUA

Officials Meet Press on Relations With Honduras P 8
High-Level Meeting With Honduras To Be Requested P 18
Newsmen's Assembly Uncovering Misinformation Plot P 18
CTN-CUS To Sponsor Separate Labor Day Celebration P 19

DISPUTE CONTINUES WITH CHILE ALONG BORDER

Troops, Materiel Go to Border

PY301445 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1128 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Mendoza, 30 Apr (by NA special envoy)--This morning, army soldiers bivouacked in Las Curvas kept the border pass with Chile closed while equipment and materiel were being gathered in several points of the mountain range where the transit of private vehicles was practically prohibited.

Reliable sources also stated that a contingent of members of the army and national gendarmerie had gone to the south of the province to station itself near "El Pehuenque" Pass, situated in front of the Chilean Talca region, despite the fact that the highway there is blocked on the Chilean side by a mountain of stone and loose material.

The same spokesmen stated today that groups of soldiers carrying out training maneuvers in Potrerillos, 50 km from this capital, had been gathered together and transferred towards Uspallata and probably up to the area where the operations are underway.

However, the main force mobilization took place yesterday, especially in the morning and after midday when the movement of trucks with troops and artillery equipment of the powerful Uspallata garrison, where two regiments are headquartered, was observed.

III Corps Commander to Capital

PY301331 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1211 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] San Salvador de Jujuy, 30 Apr (NA)--Unofficial sources have reported that III Corps Commander Gen Cristino Nicolaides, who arrived here yesterday unexpectedly to meet with high-ranking officers of the 20th Infantry Regiment headquartered in this city left for the federal capital at 0200 this morning.

Nicolaides, who arrived here at 1830 from Mendoza, which he visited after the closing of the border with Chile, left for Buenos Aires aboard the Lear jet plane which had brought him here.

Local radio stations limited themselves to reporting the departure of Nicolaides without giving any detail on the activities carried out here by the general

Air Commander to Rio Gallegos

PY301409 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARTENTINAS in Spanish 1215 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Apr (NA)--It has been reported here that Air Force Commander Lt Gen Omar Graffigna left this morning for Rio Gallegos.

The member of the military junta left the Aeroparque Metropolitano military sector at 0810 with a scheduled stop in Comodoro Rivadavia.

Graffigna unexpectedly returned to the federal capital yesterday from the southern part of the country to participate in a meeting of the military committee.

In the Rio Gallegos zone, the air force commander attended 2 days of air-ground maneuvers by his force.

Border Open for Third Parties

PY301832 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1635 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Mendoza, 30 Apr (TELAM)--A bus carrying Peruvian tourists this morning crossed the border into Chile and the same can be done by travelers from countries other than Argentina and Chile.

This means that travelers from third countries can cross the border from Mendoza into Chile, according to reliable sources.

Caltieri on Troop Movements

PY302051 Paris AFP in Spanish 2013 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Apr (AFP)--The commander in chief of the Argentine Army and member of the military junta, Lt Gen Leopoldo Galtieri, revealed today that he had ordered the mobilization of troops toward the border, and he termed as regrettable the attitude of Chile for having arrested two Argentine Army officers for spying last Saturday.

On visiting the 3d Infantry Regiment, based on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, Galtieri stated to the press that the troop movements are essentially precautionary, and he told the soldiers that not a shot must be wasted when the army commander in chief gives the order to fire.

Galtieri agreed to give his opinion on the conflict with Chile, which has escalated during the past 24 hours due to the arrest of two officers of the Argentine Army in the Chilean city of Los Andes on Saturday 25 April. This incident prompted a harsh ultimatum from the Buenos Aires government, which was handed last night to the Chilean ambassador, Sergio Jarpa Reyes.

Galtieri said that Chile's attitude is a regrettable fact, and episodes of this nature do not help the papal mediation.

The two countries have a border conflict over the sovereignty over the southern Beagle Channel and its neighboring islands. The Vatican is acting as mediator and the pope's first proposal was well received by Chile and virtually rejected by Argentina because it felt that its interests had been harmed.

The cabinet met this morning in order to listen to a report by Foreign Minister Oscar Camilion on tensions with Chile. After the cabinet meeting, Gen Raul Ortiz, the Presidency press secretary, said that it is necessary that the population remain calm and be alert to every type of exaggerated rumors regarding troop movements--something that is not true.

He then admitted that only some areas are being covered due to the closure of the border and at the request of the gendarmerie. I would say that there is no deployment of troops, only of guards, he said.

General Villareal, commander of the 5th Army Division, said that Argentina is not out spy-hunting. He made this remark while commenting on reports from Chilean Government officials that some incriminating pictures taken by arrested Argentine officers were found.

Villareal also said that those pictures are probably not any different from those usually taken by tourists, but that he would like to see them because the charges seem astonishing.

About the arrest of a Chilean citizen on espionage charges, General Villareal said that the case was perhaps the first in which the charges turned out to be true, because the defendant confessed his guilt and was sentenced. So far, 18 cases such as this have occurred and the press refers to them as "Beagle spy" cases.

Including Maj Pablo Barileau and Lt Oscar Santos, there are now 10 Argentine citizens kept in Chilean military barracks under espionage charges. Under similar charges, there are eight persons under arrest in Argentinas: two army officers, four cartographers, a store owner and a woman who is also charged with drug trafficking.

Prisoner Exchange Suggested

PY302338 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2050 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Apr (TELAM)--It was learned this afternoon in military circles that the two Argentine Army officers who were arrested in Chile presumably travelled to that country to organize a lunch in the locality of Portillo, located 5 kilometers from the border, in order to entertain personal visitors.

Maj Raul Barileau and 1st Lt Oscar Santos travelled with their wives, in civilian clothes, without luggage and without cameras. Moreover, they registered at the border pass in accordance with the norms that are in force because they were aware of the disadvantage of taking cameras, weapons or any other type of device that could implicate them in the neighboring country, the sources added.

Moreover, they indicated that there had always been a cordial camaraderie between the officers of the two countries that had been posted on the common border and that Barileau had made frequent trips to Chile, where he was always received with a show of affection. This cordiality was verified during the first 15 days of April when the chief of the mountain troops department of the Argentine Army and his Chilean counterpart, and other officers of the two countries, had a social meeting at the conclusion of the international ski tournament.

The sources said that it was normal that the visiting authorities from the Argentine area of Puente del Inca would be invited to visit Portillo, a Chilean locality that is close by and which has very interesting vistas.

The sources added that this background data is to call attention to the attitude adopted by the Chilean authorities on that occasion has caused real concern, the more so as the wives were also arrested and as initially there was the intention to hide the incident, thus demonstrating procedures that are not very clear nor very friendly.

There is the suspicion, the sources continued, that they (the Chileans) could have adopted this type of attitude in order to seek an exchange for the officers that were arrested in the south when they were caught taking photographs of military garrisons. The officers are: Lt Ismael Aranda Pazo and Ricardo Bravo Carreno, who are under arrest. The federal judge in Rio Gallegos, Federico Manuel Pinto Kramer, has ordered their preventive custody in view of the fact that they were surprised in the neighborhood of Comandante Luis Piedrabuena taking photographs very late at night of a new garrison that is under construction.

The same sources indicated that the deployment of troops toward the border has been carried out to support and reinforce the Argentine gendarmerie for an improved coverage of the border, which is very long, and that the border remains closed subject to the evolution of events.

Finally, a military spokesman revealed that the essence of the decisions and the measures that have been adopted reflect the clear essence of national honor that characterizes the Argentines of yesterday, today and always.

Border Areas Reported Calm

PY302216 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2135 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Mendoza, 30 Apr (NA)--The Las Cuevas pass at the border is still closed but in Alta Montana there is a calm situation as activities were carried out normally.

Activity was normal even in the schools, and he highway traffic was allowed up to Puente del Inca. In Potrerillos, there is a military post telling travellers that the pass to Chile is closed but traffic is allowed up to the border. The restriction on the sale of gasoline implemented yesterday was lifted and supply was normal. There has been no more troop movements and military officials said that they carried out their normal activities.

It should be pointed out that there are several trucks in Uspallata waiting for the measure prohibiting travel to Chile to be lifted.

Regarding travel from Chile, activity is normal. Tourists who crossed into Argentine territory said that Chilean citizens were not allowed to cross but that Argentines and foreigners coming to Argentina for any reason did not have any problems. They emphasized that the treatment they received from Argentine customs officials and Chilean carabineros was excellent.

[Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 2150 GMT on 30 April 1981 reports that "absolute calm reigns" in La Rioja Province. Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish at 2214 GMT on 30 April 1981 reports that even though the El Pinguino Passenger Service suspended its bus service to Chile, "no unaccustomed movement that could be related to the closing of the border has been observed."]

Officers' Wives Return

PY010001 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2220 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 30 Apr (TELAM)--The wives of the two officers who were arrested in Chile arrived last night at Puente del Inca, Argentina. They were accompanied by personnel of the Argentine military attache's office in Santiago, Chile.

CORRECTION TO REPORT ON GOVERNMENT PROTEST

The following correction to the item entitled "Government Protests Arrests," published in the 30 April Latin America DAILY REPORT on page B 4, are supplied from NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS at 0055 GMT on 30 April: On page B 4, two paragraphs were dropped beginning on line one of third paragraph. Paragraphs should read:

"The Foreign Ministry communique was released just after the military committee communique was released. The text is as follows:

"'In view of news items from Santiago, Chile that report the arrest of two Argentine officers and their wives, who entered the neighboring country on 25 April 1981 as tourists through the Caracoles pass after having complied with all the established formalities, the Argentine Government rejects the accusation formulated by the Chilean authorities, which lacks any type of reason and truth and at the same time it warns about the high degree of provocation that this incident involves.

"'There is a particularly grave circumstance regarding the case to the effect that for 3 days there was a lack of any type of information regarding the arrest of these officers, which was only learned of very late last night. This is an unusual incident which has no precedent in the relations between our two countries. Only when information was sought about the whereabouts of the Argentine officers and their wives could a very short and to the point report be obtained. Argentina, through its Foreign Ministry, formulated a note of energetic protest and urged that the arrested persons be released.'"

IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT TAHA MUHYI AD-DIN ENDS VISIT

PY300322 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1838 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 30 Apr (TELAM)--Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din's said today that he returns to his country very satisfied because of the agreements reached with the Argentine Government.

He revealed that cultural and scientific agreements were signed, and that they will be promptly implemented. He then asked that his cordial farewell be conveyed to the Argentine people since he is returning to his country this afternoon.

Joint Statement Issued

JN301604 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1455 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Apr (INA)--Iraq and Argentina have expressed their desire to promote bilateral relations on the basis of mutual respect and common interests. This came in a joint statement issued in Baghdad and Buenos Aires today on Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din's visit to Argentine.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the level of trade relations between them and with the implementation of the trade agreement signed in 1979. Agreement was reached in principle to hold the first meeting of the joint committee in Baghdad in October 1981. The joint statement said that a cultural and technical cooperation agreement between Iraq and Argentina was signed during the visit. It also said that the Iraqi and Argentine sides held talks in a spirit of friendship and amity which dealt with bilateral relations and ways to strengthen them and regional and international issues of common interest. Both sides expressed their firm desire to develop and strengthen these relations to serve the interests of the two peoples on the basis of mutual respect and common interests.

On reviewing the international situation, the two sides asserted their full support for the United Nations and the principles and objectives embodied in its charter, particularly the principle of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other countries, the removal of the threat to use force in international relations and respect for countries' rights to self-determination, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

Both sides asserted the importance of the Nonaligned Movement's contribution to achieving a more just and equitable international solidarity. The proclaimed their determination and resolve to cooperate to uphold the effectiveness of the movement's basic principles and to enhance its role in the field of international political and economic relations. The two sides expressed their readiness to insure the success of the nonaligned's seventh summit conference to be held in Baghdad in September 1982.

The two sides expressed their anxiety about the unstable and tense situation in various parts in the world. They reiterated their conviction that no efforts should be spared in the quest for regional and world peace and security. They asserted that cooperative relations require mutual respect for the inalienable rights of countries and full commitment to the principles of internati nal coexistence.

The Iraqi vice president acquainted the Argentine Government with the current situation in Iraq's eastern border and on the regrettable developments there. The Argentine side expressed gratitude for this information and expressed its appreciation for Iraq's positive response to all the efforts exerted to bring about peace. The Argentine Government expressed hope that all sides would exert maximum effort toward mediation of a durable, just and honorable solution based on respect for the inalienable rights of each side and for the principles of sovereignty, nonintervention in domestic affairs and relations of goodneighborliness.

The Iraqi Government reiterated its firm support for Argentina's rights in the Malvinas Islands [Falkland Islands], asserting the need for immediate restoration of this district to Argentine sovereignty. In this respect, the Argentine Government expressed its gratitude for Iraq's constant and important support on this subject in international forums.

The two sides paid special attention to the situation in the Middle East. In this respect, they announced that a lasting and just solution could be achieved within the framework of the UN resolutions which call for withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and full respect for the Palestinian people's inalienable rights to self-determination, sovereignty and independence.

The two governments expressed their deep concern at the situation in Lebanon. They appealed to all parties to exercise maximum self-restraint and to exploit all available means to find a solution acceptable to the Lebanese Government and people on the basis of guaranteeing the country's independence and unity and nonintervention in domestic affairs.

The two sides stressed that preserving security and stability in the Arab Gulf region is the responsibility of only the region's states.

The Iraqi side explained the situation in the Indian Ocean region and the two sides agreed to maintain the Indian Ocean as a zone of security and peace devoid of struggle and tension in accordance with the UN General Assembly's statement in 1973. They called on all states to fully cooperate with the littoral states in order to achieve this target.

The two sides evaluated the grave international economic situation and stressed their complete conviction that solving the problems of the developing countries cannot be achieved in the absence of a regular change in the structure of international economic relations by means of establishing a new international economic order based on the principles of equality, justice and reciprocal benefits.

The two sides stressed the developing countries' right to exercise complete and permanent sovereignty over the sources of their own wealth. They stressed the need for and the importance of combining organized efforts to coordinate the UN General Assembly's resolutions and extraordinary sessions on the establishment of a new international economic order.

The Argentine side highly evaluated Iraq's proposal on the establishment of a long-range fund to help the developing countries face the repercussions of inflation, which is exported to the developing countries by the developed countries, on the basis that all the industrial states, regardless of their economic and political systems, contribute to the fund at rates similar to the annual inflation exported by them to the developing states. Meanwhile, the oil-exporting countries would contribute to the fund according to the same principles. The two sides called on all concerned states to approve and support a practical formula in order to quickly implement this proposals.

Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf visited Argentina 27-30 April. He was accompanied by a high-ranking Iraqi delegation. During this visit, he met with Argentine President Roberto Eduardo Viola.

ESPIONAGE DISPUTE WITH ARGENTINA CONTINUES

Illegal Pictures Described

PY301448 Paris AFP in Spanish 1301 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 30 Apr (AFP)--The daily newspaper LA TERCERA DE LA HORA of this capital reported today that the two Argentine Army officers detained in Chile on Saturday had taken pictures exclusively of bridges and military areas, while touring the country.

The two military officers, Maj Raul Barilleau and Lt Oscar Santos, are now at the disposal of a military prosecutor of Santiago, Chile, who questioned them for several hours yesterday.

The detention of these two officers and the accusations of spying led the Argentine Government to close the border areas with Chile on Wednesday, simultaneously mobilizing troops toward the border, according to reports by witnesses.

The same day, Argentina rejected the Chilean accusations against Major Barilleau and Lieutenant Santos and asked for their immediate release, describing them as single tourists.

LA TERCERA DE LA HORA attributes this flat denial of the report to an unofficial government source and states that the pictures seized from the Argentine military officers show only bridges and military units.

There is nothing touristic or affectionate in the pictures, not even their wives appear in them, the newspaper reports.

The wives of the two military officers were also detained on Saturday but were released on Wednesday, by order of Gonzalo Salazar, the military prosecutor who heard the case. Barilleau and Santos are now at the army quarters in Santiago, Chile.

Argentine Envoy on Situation

PY301625 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1510 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Apr (NA)--Hugo Miatello, Argentine ambassador to Chile, today declared in Santiago that as a consequence of the arrest of two Argentine officers and their wives in the neighboring country "there is a confrontation between us" and although he refrained from comparing the current situation with that of 1978 when the two nations were at the brink of war, he sustained that "we are living at an important moment, an unfortunate situation."

Miatello made these statements during a telephone interview broadcast by Mitre Radio of this capital. After terming the arrest of the officers as "unwonted" and "grave," he stated that those events are not "elements favorable" for the pope's mediation in the southern border conflict and voiced his hope "that this will not happen again."

The ambassador pointed out that this is the first incident between the two countries in which "women are involved"--in referring to the wives of the officers--and stated that "although they were not subjected to any unusual situation, the mere fact that they had to undergo unpleasant inquiries or similar things which cause a state of mind which normally a man could not endure."

Miatello disclosed that the wives of the two officers who had also been arrested were released yesterday and that they have already returned to Argentina.

Regarding Maj Raul Pablo Barilleau and 1st Lt Oscar Santos, the ambassador stated: "At present we are asking for information on the legal status of the officers" since there has been no official information in this regard so far.

Miatello explained that "I was not summoned by the Chilean Foreign Ministry, I went there following my government's instructions to make a statement on the situation, on how seriously we look upon the event, which we have termed unwonted, and to request all information in this regard."

He added: "I obtained very little documentation and information through this channel since this issue is being handled here by another sphere of the Chilean Government; it is being handled by the military justice."

Miatello stated that as a consequence, "the little official information we have on this incident is on the release of the ladies (wives of the officers)" and that "for the time being I do not have the details" on the situation of the officers under arrest.

Regarding the ladies, the ambassador disclosed that after being released they had lunch at the embassy building in Santiago and that they then returned to their homes in Mendoza Province.

He termed the episode as "unfortunate for bilateral relations" and pointed out that "there has not been a similar event with such special characteristics, such as having women involved," in the past.

At the end, when he was asked whether he considered the current event similar to the one in 1978, Miatello answered that "I would not like to say it is similar. I would say that we are living at an important moment, an unfortunate situation, that there is a confrontation between us."

He continued to state that "so many things happen that I could not and would not like to compare this moment with the past or with what could happen in the future of such a tense relationship and of the situation we are experiencing. We are working on the mediation effort and these events are not healthy for it. I hope this does not happen again."

Foreign Minister on Situation

PY302034 Paris AFP in Spanish 1933 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 30 Apr (AFP)--Chilean Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames admitted here today that the agreement signed with Argentina to overcome the Beagle conflict has been broken.

Rojas Galdames referred in this manner to the border closure ordered by Argentina, the Argentine troop movement near the Chilean border and the Montevideo agreement signed on 8 January 1979 by which the two countries agreed to maintain an environment of relaxation.

Anything that tends to destroy the relaxation between the two countries violates the spirit of the Montevideo agreement, said the chief of the Chilean Foreign Ministry at the conclusion of a meeting with President Augusto Pinochet.

He added that obviously what has taken place is not in accordance with the spirit of that agreement.

Regarding his meeting with President Pinochet, Foreign Minister Rojas Galdames said that they discussed the content of the note of protest delivered by Argentina yesterday demanding the release of the two arrested officers: Maj Pablo Raul Barrileau and Lt Oscar Alberto Santos.

Rojas Galdames said that the answer to this note will be written with the serenity and firmness maintained by the Chilean Government.

'Absolute Calm' in Country

PY010011 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 2353 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] The interior minister has stated to the press that there is absolute calm and peace in Chile with regard to the closing of the border by the Argentine authorities. Minister Sergio Fernandez repeated what had been said by the foreign minister to the effect that Chile is keeping its border open and that regarding this matter there is absolute peace.

Government Uneasy, Surprised

PY010201 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 May 81

[Text] It was learned in government circles tonight that there exists a very strong uneasiness and surprise caused by the hurried and exaggerated reactions of certain Argentine authorities, who have demanded the closure of the border and the mobilization of troops due to the arrest of two officers of their army who were caught in the act of spying.

It was also indicated that the spying activities that have been discovered and the reaction of the aforementioned authorities (?violate) the spirit of the treaty of Montevideo, which had the intention of reducing tensions between the two countries.

The circles also add that in view of the alleged demands of the Argentine Foreign Ministry, which have been revealed through the press, regarding the release and return of the officers that are involved and currently in prison, that this is impossible and inapplicable because, in accordance with our constitution, it is the courts that have to clarify the charges, determine the degree of guilt and impose the appropriate punishment regarding these two officers.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA VICE PRESIDENT CONTINUES VISIT

Signs Cooperation Agreement

PY241858 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Chile and Equatorial Guinea have signed a basic cooperation agreement which was signed by Chilean Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames and the vice president and foreign minister of Equatorial Guinea, Florencio Maye Ela, during a ceremony held at the Red Room of the Chilean Foreign Ministry.

Asks for Copy of Constitution

PY251356 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Apr 81

[Text] Equatorial Guinea wishes to follow the Chilean economic model in order to get out of the precarious situation it is experiencing. This has been asserted by Florencio Maye Ela, vice president and foreign minister of that African nation, who pointed out that both nations have had a similar development. The Guinean diplomat also said that he has requested a copy of the Chilean constitution to be used by his government as a (?reference) document.

Florencio Maye said that his country has had the same experience as Chile. It had a Marxist regime and is still suffering from international isolation. He explained that his government has started making contacts with Spanish-speaking countries in order that they use his country as a bridgehead to open relations with other African nations.

He also stated that he has been impressed by the panorama offered by Chile and by President Pinochet's personality.

ARMY DISMANTLES M-19 SHOCK TROOP IN YURAYUCU

PA300458 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1128 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Text] Bogota, 29 Apr (EFE)--The Colombian Army dismantled a shock troop of the 19 April Movement (M-19) last Tuesday in the zone of Yurayucu, in the extreme southern part of the country, a military spokesman reported.

Maj Eduardo Arevalo, the army's public relations chief, told EFE that five minor chiefs in the ranks of this subversive organization were captured.

They are: Fabio Espinoza Pinzon, Nepomuceno Camacho, Carlos Arturo Diaz, Nepomuceno Collazos and Jose Ruben Ortiz. They were captured during a clash with army troops in a region in Caqueta Intendancy.

Major Arevalo reported that three guerrillas were killed and another three were captured. He also reported seizing arms and ammunition.

During a series of clashes between army troops and guerrillas which took place between Sunday and Monday, more than 15 members of the M-19, the most active guerrilla group in the country, were killed.

Major Arevalo told EFE he still did not have an official report on the alleged death of Jaime Bateman Cayon, the M-19 main leader, who according to some reports could have been killed last weekend in the south of Colombia.

M-19 LEADER TOLEDO PLATA DENIES TRAINING IN CUBA

PA301259 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Medellin, Colombia--A court-martial in this city sentenced five guerrillas of the National Liberation Army, ELN, to 72 years for the crime of rebellion.

Meanwhile, the leader of the 19 April Movement, M-19, Carlos Toledo Plata, denied reports that members of that organization had been trained in Cuba. Toledo Plata, presently in La Picota Prison, told CROMOS magazine that revolutions are not started from abroad and it is impossible to export them since they are born of the specific social conditions of each country, such as misery, injustice, unemployment and official corruption.

SIX NICARAGUANS SEEK ASYLUM ON SAN ANDRES ISLAND

PA010415 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 May 81

[Text] Bogota, 30 Apr (LATIN-REUTER)--Six Nicaraguan citizens arrived today aboard a Honduran-flag ship on the Colombian island of San Andres in the Caribbean and requested political asylum, the national navy has reported.

The Nicaraguans, who said they were the victims of political persecution, identified themselves as Benjamin Segovia, Rodolfo Hamilton, Orlando Orlington Beliz, Jose Francisco Wedd, Rodolfo Hudson and Martin Tawns.

They were turned over to the immigration office of the secret police of the island.

GOVERNMENT, MILITARY AGREE ON OIL POLICY

PY290308 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2012 GMT 28 Apr 81

[By Kevin Dunn]

[Text] Lima, 28 Apr (LATIN)--The Peruvian Government today improved its relations with the armed forces regarding oil policies, thus overcoming its first crisis since it took over the government 9 months ago after 12 years of military government.

An official communique states that the National Defense Council--an organization which includes members of the cabinet and high-ranking military officials under the Presidency of Fernando Belaunde Terry--has reached an unanimous agreement on oil policy for the country.

The communique also states that the government's objective is to maintain the Peruvian position as an oil exporter by strengthening the state-owned PETROPERU and attracting foreign investments.

Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa said to reporters that "there is complete agreement (between the government and the armed forces) on the policies to be implemented."

The military created alarm in political circles a few weeks ago when it publicly expressed concern over the terms of a new oil law and the exploration contract signed with a foreign company. Political sources indicated that this was the first real threat to the stability of the government since President Belaunde was inaugurated on 28 July 1980.

The official communique states that the government and the military have agreed that for economic and defense reasons it is necessary for Peru to maintain an oil production level sufficient to satisfy domestic demands and at the same time have a profitable exportable surplus.

Peru is currently producing close to 200,000 barrels of oil daily and 60,000 are sold on the spot market. Officials have warned, however, that without an increase of foreign investors to promote exploration, Peru will become an importer by 1985.

Without naming the foreign companies, the communique stated that the defense council recognized the need to use the services and resources of contractors.

The communique added that this policy will save PETROPERU a heavy financial burden, it will transfer foreign technology and will create great benefits.

Political sources indicated that the declaration has strengthened the government policies, recognizing at the same time the armed forces' concern that PETROPERU should have priority in this industry.

The government policies have drawn great opposition from leftist parties because they believe that the government will hand over Peruvian wealth to the large multinational companies.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA VICE PRESIDENT ENDS VISIT

PY301809 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Carrying on with a series of visits, the vice president of Equatorial Guinea left for Colombia. At the airport, the distinguished visitor, Florencio Maye Ela pointed out the importance of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Peru and Equatorial Guinea, which is the only African Spanish-speaking country. Maye Ela pointed out that this will give us an advantage in our relations with Latin American nations.

EL SALVADOR

CASE OF MISSING PRIEST MAY AFFECT TIES WITH U.S.

PA300315 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2027 GMT 29 Apr 81

[By Ricardo Medina]

[Text] San Salvador, 29 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The United States, through its charge d'affaires in El Salvador, has asked the Salvadoran Army for an explanation regarding the disappearance of a U.S. priest, Roy Bourgeois of the Maryknoll Order.

The disappearance of Roy Bourgeois must be added to the case of four U.S. nuns, three of whom were also from the Maryknoll Order, who were killed in December. The Salvadoran authorities still know nothing about those responsible for their deaths.

As soon as it learned of the priest's disappearance, the U.S. Embassy announced that it would start its own investigation. "However, this does not mean there is a lack of trust in our investigators. The relations between the United States and El Salvador continue to be friendly and we have not received any complaint in that respect," said a spokesman for the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry.

A Salvadoran Armed Forces officer, who asked not to be identified, commented that "the disappearance of the U.S. priest does not help the relations between the United States and El Salvador."

"The murder of the four nuns was exploited for propaganda purposes by all those interested in having the United States stop military aid to El Salvador," the officer said.

"The disappearance of Roy Bourgeois of the Maryknoll Order may cause U.S. patience to be exhausted. However, in this specific case, there are some obscure points. For example, it is strange that he should have entered the country, not as a Maryknoll priest, but as the interpreter for a television crew, although the television network is completely uninvolved. It is also strange that he did not inform the superiors of the Maryknoll Order in San Salvador and that, without being familiar with the city, he should have left the hotel to find a drugstore that was open on Sunday," the officer said.

At the official level, there is concern because cases like the disappearance of the priest or the killings in the suburbs of San Salvador might cause a deterioration of the Salvadoran Government's image to such a point that Ronald Reagan's government might reconsider its policy toward this country. Relations between the United States and El Salvador, which have taken shape in the past few months in the form of the arrival of over $40 million in weapons, 54 military advisers and international diplomatic support, might be substantially jeopardized.

PAPER SCORES SUPPORTERS OF WASHINGTON RALLY

PA302252 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 30 Apr 81 p 9

[Editorial: "Demonstrations Against El Salvador in Washington"]

[Excerpt] Thousands will demonstrate in Washington on 3 May against the aid that the U.S. Government is giving our country. This is part of a campaign aimed at neutralizing the opposition to Soviet expansionism in America. The demonstration has been organized by the most diverse political and religious groups, including the WOLA [Washington Office on Latin America], the Jesuits, Protestants and leftists. To ensure the success of this demonstration, large sums of money have been spent. Round-trip tickets to Washington are being offered at one-fifth the regular price.

Newspapers are publishing many advertisements referring to the gathering and there are weekly television programs on El Salvador. The most recent was entitled: "Is El Salvador Another Vietnam?" The way that the program was presented in order to confuse the people about what is really happening in our country was unbelievably perverse.

It is amazing how similar their arguments, their political support and objectives are to those used in the past for Vietnam, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Chile and Nicaragua. They present only one side of the problem and always accuse the pro-Western forces of being oppressors and imperialists and at the same time refuse to admit the regional or international nature of conflicts. As should be expected, at no time do they admit that that the real power behind the tragic events the world is currently facing is the Red imperialism acting on its own or through its satrapies.

The question "Is El Salvador Another Vietnam?" or "Central America a New Indochina?" In fact, any similarity is minimal compared to the differences even if in our region, as in Asia, a military operation results in the fall of our countries to communism, as has already occurred in Nicaragua.

POLITICAL GROUP ISSUES CALL TO 'SILENT MAJORITY'

PA300339 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 29 Apr 81 p 41

[Manifesto issued by the Salvadoran Democratic Mobilization: "Our Call to the Nation;" dated April 1981]

[Excerpts] With true devotion to the fatherland and full awareness of our responsibility as citizens, without partisanship and with the sole goal of achieving peace, well-being and progress for the Salvadoran people, the Salvadoran Democratic Mobilization has emerged as a historical imperative stemming from the feelings of several sectors of El Salvador's society which, without extremism or demagogy, are convinced that they reflect and represent the true feelings of the majority of Salvadorans.

This large segment of public opinion rejects Marxist dogmas, which lead to a permanent subjugation of peoples by deceiving them and betraying their most cherished aspirations. It also rejects the imposition of formulas which are completely alien to the traditions which have guided and inspired the political activities of our people. These formulas are being presented to us under the guise of a so-called "communitarianism" toward which a small group of Christian Democrats, who represent nothing but themselves and their interests, are trying to lead the country.

The erstwhile critics of dictatorships and tyrannies who are now in power, through their goals and deeds, have gone even further than the traditional system against which they fought. The cruel reality of an empty democracy which exists only in words but is full of demagogy is now harsher than ever. Its results, as we have noted, are clear to all: Further violence, corruption, administrative inefficiency, nepotism, polarization, social tension, economic depression and repression and less possibilities of dialogue and political opening.

In face of this situation, we will resolutely continue our efforts to restore the values that guide and inspire the Salvadoran people.

Power rests with this great hopeful and silent majority of men and women who are victims of the turmoil unleashed by a senseless struggle between the Revolutionary Democratic Front and the Christian Democratic Party. Our patriotic duty prompts us to mobilize to achieve unity and cohesion among this great mass, which is the true bulkwark of our nationality and our republican institutions.

San Salvador, April 1981.
[Signed] Democratic Salvadoran Mobilization

FMLN MEMBER REAFFIRMS WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE

PA010213 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Acceptance of negotiations with the Christian Democratic junta of El Salvador is a demonstration of strength rather than of weakness, said a member of the Political-Diplomatic Commission of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN]. We agreed to negotiations with the Christian Democratic junta of El Salvador in order to save some lives and some of our people's economic goods, Federico Castillo, member of the FMLN Political Commission said today in a news conference with a large number of newsmen who are attending the world newsmens assembly.

The fact that we have agreed to negotiations should not be interpreted as weakness, but rather as a demonstration of strength for the people's revolution, Castillo continued. Here is an excerpt of his statement to the newsmens assembly:

[Begin recording] It is necessary to mention, even briefly, the issue of the mediation, dialogue and negotiations that is discussed so much on all continents.

Social and political forces from practically the entire world have demanded and continue to demand a political solution. In light of these proposals, the Political-Diplomatic Commission stated last December that it was willing to engage in dialogue.

A plan was established for the mediation that was proposed by the Socialist International in Panama on 28 February and 1 March. The commission formulated a plan for mediation through the establishment of a group of international mediators. In recent days, it has been learned from news dispatches that the military-Christian Democratic junta of El Salvador has rejected the possibility of international mediation.

We must emphasize that the sectors which are opposed to international mediation are the most reactionary sectors of the army and the oligarchic sectors of El Salvador, in addition to the reactionary sectors of the U.S. State Department which are politically and militarily supporting the Salvadoran Government.

It is the military sector that really controls the Salvadoran Government and not the Christian Democratic Party or its representatives.

In this matter of mediation by an international mediation group, it is also necessary to make it clear that the Political-Diplomatic Commission of the FMLN and the Revolutionary Democratic Front agree to a mediation that will eventually lead to negotiations because of our commitment to avoid as much as possible the loss of lives and economic goods for our people. However, this can never in any way be interpreted as a position of weakness. The Political-Diplomatic Commission emphasizes that the acceptance of mediation and negotiation now or in the future is precisely a demonstration of its popular revolutionary strength. [end recording]

POLICE SEARCH HOMES IN SAN SALVADOR DISTRICT

PA302359 San Salvador Canal Dos Television in Spanish 1325 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Text] This morning, members of the national police carried out a house-to-house search in the northern sector of Flor Blanca District. The operation began at approximately 0730.

A security cordon was laid from Roosevelt Walk to 6th and 10th Avenues and from 35th to 49th Streets. The police searched for war material and anything connected with subversion.

The officers who led the operation said they were very grateful for the high degree of cooperation shown by the public and apologized for the inconvenience. They said, however, that the search had been conducted precisely to safeguard the citizens' tranquillity. The police reported no important discoveries and said there were no complaints from the residents.

The officers explained that these surprise operations will be carried out in several districts of the capital and that honest citizens who possess arms must either turn them in before searches are conducted or register them.

OVER 300 SCHOOLS CLOSE; TEACHERS FLEE COUNTRY

PA242000 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 24 Apr 81

[Text] The changes offered by Duarte and his gang are bringing more debts and less education for the people. More than 300 schools have discontinued classes in various places in the country while 1,000 teachers have resigned following threats from the death squads, an Education Ministry official disclosed. Most teachers who resigned have had to flee to neighboring countries such as the United States seeking work and security for their lives because more than 50 teachers have been killed so far this year.

Moreover, this same official said that the government has not built or repaired any schools since last year. He added that the student population has significantly decreased because of the interruption of the school year in the countryside due to the constant military attacks against the civilian population and the frequent emigration of families. Despite the repudiation of all the Salvadorans, the crazy ambition of Duarte and the murderous colonels has only meant pain and death for our people.

CONTINUATION OF INTERVIEW WITH CAYETANO CARPIO

For the third in a series of SALPRESS interviews aired by Radio Moscow with Cayetano Carpio, member of the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, see page K 1 of the Latin America & Caribbean section of the 1 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

GUATEMALA

OIL PIPELINE DAMAGED; MILITARY PATROL ATTACKED

PA010342 Paris AFP in Spanish 2019 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 30 Apr (AFP)--Several acts of violence, including an attack against the petroleum installations in northern Guatemala and an attack against a military patrol that left four dead, were reported here today.

The Mining and Hydrocarbons Secretariat today reported an act of sabotage against the oil pipeline used to transfer the crude oil which is pumped from the Rubelsato Well, Alta Verapaz Department. Unidentified individuals planted and detonated explosives which caused considerable damage. The oil-drilling company in Rubelsalto, ELF Aquitaine, a French concern, is carrying out the necessary work and repairs to reestablish normal production, it was said.

The attack took place around midnight yesterday. This is the second attack against the Rubelsalto installations. During Holy Week, a group of guerrillas attacked the installations and caused damage that temporarily shut down production.

An army patrol was attacked this morning, presumably by guerrillas, on the road from Guatemala City to the Pacific Ocean. Four soldiers were killed.

In Guatemala City, bombs continued to explode this morning in various parts of the city, causing considerable damage to an automobile dealer.

HONDURAS

8 KILLED IN NEW CLASH AT BORDER WITH NICARAGUA

PA010012 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] According to a report from LA PRENSA of San Pedro Sula, a new armed incident took place between Honduran and Nicaraguan troops at dawn yesterday when Sandinist troops stationed in the area of Galileo, Chinandega Department, attacked a Honduran Army patrol in the area of El Estribo, jurisdiction of El Triunfo municipality in Choluteca Department.

The incident took place between [as heard] 0132 yesterday. According to initial reports, the attackers suffered between seven and nine casualties, including dead and wounded, who were taken by their comrade to relief posts.

An official army source said that the clash lasted 30 minutes and that Honduran soldiers were unhurt. This new armed clash took place a few hours after officers of the two armies met at the Guasaule border post to settle differences. This new incident has further worsened the already strained situation.

There have been no further reports about the incident. There was no indication if our country will raise a complaint before the international community although one will most certainly be lodged with a Nicaraguan delegation expected toay in Tegucigalpa.

Further Details

PA301610 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1516 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 30 APR (ACAN-EFE)--Another clash between Honduran and Nicaraguan soldiers caused the deaths of eight persons and injuries to four children, it was reported today over Radio America of Honduras.

According to the radio, the clash occurred at a place known as El Estribo on the border around 0130 (0730 GMT). The report adds that members of the Nicaraguan Sandinist People's Army fired morters and heavy artillery at military positions and villages in Honduras.

In the attack, four young people were wounded and have been taken to the nearby town of El Paraiso.

Radio America said the Honduran troops answered the fire and caused eight casualties among the Sandinist soldiers. The report did not state how the information was obtained.

The Honduran and Nicaraguan armies have mobilized some 3,000 men on the border, where some 10 armed clashes have occurred in the past 2 months.

SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE REPORTS 'COUP PLANS' BY ARMY

PA300227 Paris AFP in Spanish 1808 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Text] Mexico City, 29 Apr (AFP)--The Latin American Solidarity Committee charged here in Mexico today that 12 Honduran Army colonels are conspiring to overthrow President Policarpo Paz.

According to the organization's representatives, at a meeting held on 17 April in San Pedro Sula, on the Honduran coast, the coupists agreed to overthrow Paz in order to prevent the Liberal Party of Honduras from reaching power. The coupists agreed to establish a military government that would provoke a war with Nicaragua.

According to the committee's spokesmen, "the conspiracy which is in full keeping with the coup plan established in San Pedro Sula, began on Monday, the 27th, with an attack by Honduran military forces on the Nicaraguan border post of Guasaule, in the Chinandega area."

They added that "the colonels' intention was to make the incident look like an attack by Nicaragua in order to create a state of alarm in Honduras that would permit development of their coup plans."

They also said that the biggest obstacle to the coup, which according to them "is already underway," is President Paz' prestige among certain Honduran sectors, which regard him as a hero of the war between Honduras and El Salvador in 1969.

Finally, they recalled the capture of two Honduran soldiers last week in Nicaraguan territory. According to their own statements, they entered on the instructions of their commanding officer to carry our reconnaissance tasks with an eye on future military actions.

Press Secretary Comments

PA010353 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Presidential Press Secretary Jonathan Russell yesterday described the reports published in Mexico about an alleged plan to stage a coup against President Paz Garcia, in which several Honduran colonels were reportedly involved, as a campaign orchestrated by the Sandinist government to discredit the Honduran Government.

Russell said that Nicaragua, through the Sandinist government, has undertaken a campaign to discredit the Honduran Government and that the report issued in Mexico is part of this ill-intentioned campaign.

In Tegucigalpa, political circles said that the report is part of the attempts by the sectors which are trying to create a general confrontation to block the democratic process in which all Hondurans are participating. However, let's listen to the presidential press secretary's statement to newsman Gustavo R. Rubi:

[Begin recording] [Russell] (?A meeting was held) by a so-called committee of solidarity with the peoples of I don't know where, which is one of the many bodies the Sandinist government has in the world. It said a group of colonels had met to stage a coup against the progressive government of General Paz.

This is downright nonsense and nothing but a new maneuver by the Sandinists, who have mounted a campaign to discredit this country and to disrupt the electoral process and peace in this country.

They seek to liberate Hondurans from problems they think we Hondurans have. Therefore, this is nothing but a Sandinist campaign which seeks to discredit this country and create problems in it.

[Question] Does General Paz have the full support of the armed forces?
[Answer] Well, I and everybody have heard the colonels and the members of the armed forces supreme council and the Honduran Army commanders repeatedly say that they resolutely support General Paz and that they are at his service.

[Question] And how about the Constituent Assembly and the political parties?
[Answer] Well, you have heard (?Dr Fernando) Cordova, the Liberal Party convention and the rest of the nationalist leaders say that they support this government. I do not know when the so-called coup will be staged. (?This is nothing) but a new vexing action by the Sandinist government which wants to sow unrest in this country.

[Question] What is the [word indistinct] reason for this campaign?
[Answer] They want the same thing that happened to Nicaraguans to happen to us. They cannot [bear] to see a country like this in peace and engaged in an electoral process. They do not think elections are a solution to the problems of any country, and this is at odds with their process, which is being carried out at gunpoint while the process of changes here is being carried out with votes.

[Question] What can you tell us about the incidents?
[Answer] Colonel [Bali] Castillo has already said that the Honduran Army is ready to defend the nation's territory; that it is already tired of so many provocations (?from the right) and that they will be surprised if they go on with these activities.

[Question] Do you have any announcement to make to the Honduran people [word indistinct]?
[Answer] No, except that every body must be calm, have faith and participate with enthusiasm in the civic celebration, which will be the elections. [end recording]

This was an exclusive that Presidential Press Secretary Jonathan Russell gave to Radio America yesterday.

BORDER WITH NICARAGUA REOPENED TO CARGO, PEOPLE

PA010256 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1723 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 30 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Economy Ministry announced today that the border between Honduras and Nicaragua had been reopened to the free passage of vehicles, merchandise and people.

Honduras and Nicaragua closed their borders yesterday afternoon due to the growing animosity in the border area following armed incidents and problems in the transportation of merchandise.

A Honduran Economy Ministry official said that "Nicaraguan authorities are applying a 10-percent tax to Honduran merchandise without exception."

Honduras adopted a number of protectionist measures which include a 10-percent tax on some imported products, which violates bilateral trade treaties that this country has signed with Nicaragua, Guatemala and Costa Rica.

"Honduran producers feel that their interests have been harmed because for the past several months they had been suffering the effects of restrictive tariffs in Nicaragua and now are at an even greater disadvantage with regard to local competitors," the source explained. The Honduran authorities feel that the Nicaraguan reprisal has been hasty because the economic plan which provides for the import tax in Honduras requires the approval of the National Constituent Assembly beforeit can be put into effect.

The Honduran Economy Ministry said that the government's attitude is one of "resignation and that the situation had been foreseen, which is why alternate markets are being sought in the Caribbean and in other parts of the American Continent."

BRIEFS

INCREASED EXPORT REVENUE--Honduran Foreign Trade Director Carlos Young Torres said today that Honduras will increase exports by 9.6 percent during the present year and that 13 percent of the increase will be in nontraditional exports. He also said that several countries are interested in purchasing Honduran products and that this country is striving to improve quality standards as demanded in international markets. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1705 GMT 25 Apr 81 PA]

NEW FESITRANH PRESIDENT--San Pedro Sula--Celeo Gonzalez has resigned from his post of president of the Union Federation of Northern Workers of Honduras [FESITRANH]. Francisco Guerrero Nunez, who is a member of the Union of Standard Fruit Company Workers, was unanimously elected as the new president of FESITRANH. The new board of directors of FESITRANH is: Francisco Guerrero Nunez, president; Jaime Reynaldo Caceres, vice president; Ramon Rodilio Ortiz, secretary; Pablo Reyes Rodriguez, treasurer; Roberto Martinez Hueso, member; Antonio Julin Mendez, secretary of peasant affairs; Concepcion Aguilar, secretary of women's affairs; and Alfredo Castillo, secretary general. [San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Apr 81 p 2 PA]

NICARAGUA

OFFICIALS MEET PRESS ON RELATIONS WITH HONDURAS

PA301620 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 30 Apr 81

[News conference presented by the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction at Cesar Augusto Silva recreation center in Managua, with the following government representatives in attendance: Junta members Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Sergio Ramirez and Rafael Cordova Rivas; Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega Saavedra, minister of defense; Commander Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the Political Committee of the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front; Eden Pastora, deputy minister of defense; Commander Lenin Cerna, chief of the State Security Department; Commander Julio Ramos, member of the General Staff of the Sandinist People's Army; and Commander Augusto Montealegre, army judge advocate--live]

[Text] [Ramirez] Good evening, companeros and newsmen from all over the world. The Government of National Reconstruction has called this news conference to outline information and criteria for you related to the situation that currently exists with regard to the Honduran Government and army.

As we have said repeatedly, Nicaragua is always concerned about the peace, security and stability of Central America. We feel that it is on the basis of mutual respect and respect for our revolution, as we have said on previous occasions, that this peace, security and tranquillity will be brought about. However, events that have actually taken place, and the repeated attacks of which we have been victims, do not contribute to creation of this climate of stability for the Central American region, and we wish to explain our deep concern over these incidents.

The information our government has in its possession and wishes to present to the world will be outlined for you in the name of the Government of National Reconstruction by Humberto Ortega Saavedra, commander of the revolution and minister of defense, who I now present. Thank you very much. [applause]

[Ortega] Companero newsmen: We wish first of all to give a brief general outline of the situation that will make it possible for us to understand better the latest activities carried out by the counterrevolution and by certain units of the Honduran Army against our country.

You know that since its beginning this revolution has been subjected by the most reactionary sectors of imperialism and reaction to various maneuvers designed to destabilize our process. There were various internal efforts, like the maneuvers involving Alfonso Robelo, former member of the Junta of National Reconstruction, like the withdrawal of the representatives of the rightist parties from the State Council in late 1980, like other internal activities which were unsuccessful, such as support for the counterrevolutionary bands in the interior of the country that were basically disbanded by our armed forces, and like other attempts at military conspiracy by Jorge Salazar, the reactionary who lost his life in trying.

The failure of these counterrevolutionary attempts in the country has led the counterrevolutionaries, the imperialists, to strengthen other types of activities from outside the country. This is why in the past months there has been an increase in different interventionist campaigns against Nicaragua.

These interventionist measures range from political actions to economic pressures and pressures of all kinds, as well as military activities from outside Nicaragua, basically from the northern border which links us, as you know, with the Republic of Honduras.

At the same time, we have seen with some alarm how, despite the efforts of our government to solve the problems with neighboring countries, particularly with the Honduran Government, regarding the activities of former Somozist guardsmen operating out of Honduran territory, these activities have been strengthened with the military support the U.S. government has given in recent months to the Central American reactionary regimes and to Honduras in particular. The support given by the U.S. Government to special groups of counterinsurgents, intelligence and special forces in the Central American area, and particularly in Honduras, is well known, senior U.S. army officers such as Gen Wallace Nutting, the Southern Command chief, and Gen William Masterson, Southern Command Assistant Chief and Air Force Chief, have recently visited the Honduran Armed Forces. Military aid in the form of supplies, rifles, ammunition, radar equipment, patrol cars and other equipment has been provided by the U.S. government to the Honduran Armed Forces.

It is important to state that in the past 2 months U.S. Air Force cargo aircraft have made hundreds of flights in the Central American area, particularly Honduras. These aircraft are of the C-130 and C-141 type, also cargo aircraft, and there have been some flights by C-5 planes, which are supercargo aircraft, and there have been spy flights by U-2 planes. All these flights in the region, and to Honduras in particular, could have transported no less than 7 million kg of food supplies or war materiel, which could have been distributed during the period to which we are referring.

Also, in the case of Honduras, we have learned not only of this increase in war materiel from the United States, but also of some important purchases, such as that of British Scorpion armored reconnaissance vehicles with 76-mm guns.

We have also learned that the Honduran Armed Forces have acquired some weapons such as the Czechoslovak bazooka, 45-mm (?cargo stop), of which we even have proof because we recovered a bazooka shell which did not explode and which you will be able to see later.

Other elements of the warmongering policy unleased in the region which should be borne in mind are the attempts by the most reactionary sectors of the military regimes and of the U.S. Government to separate the Inter-American Defense Board from the OAS in its decisions to intervene in situations where they think the armed forces should intervene. They are again [word indistinct] the OAS so that the armies will be given full autonomy to decide to intervene in situations which they think warrant it.

We must also mention the presence of Nicaraguan and Cuban counterrevolutionaries in the United States which was previously revealed by Commander Bayardo Arce. This activity has continued and has intensified. The bases which were denounced as being in Miami, in Dade County, south of Miami, continue to operate. Various counterrevolutionary groups train there. Former Lt Jose Aguirre was mentioned as being in those bases. Former Lt (Amador) Gutierrez was also mentioned as being in the Everglades. The presence of former Somozist Maj Rafael [name indistinct] was also mentioned. Near one of those counterrevolutionary bases in Miami, in [name indistinct] camp, we have learned there is an airbase from which planes take cargo to Central America, particularly Honduras.

We want to stress specifically the activities of the counterrevolutionaries in the past weeks. You will be able to see the support that some sectors of the Honduran Army are giving to the armed actions by the counterrevolutionaries on the border. From 19 July 1979 to December 1980, 68 soldiers and officers of our armed forces died. Most of them died on the border with Honduras in clashes with the Somozist bands supported by sectors of the Honduran Armed forces.

From January to April 1981 the following incidents have occurred.

The Somozist counterrevolution, made up of former guardsmen of the overthrown Somoza regime, has carried out 12 attacks on patrols and border posts in Nicaraguan territory.

These attacks have been carried out in the sectors of Santa Maria, San Jose de Cusmapa, El Espino and Cinco Pinos, all in the northern departments of Nueva Segovia, Madriz and Chinandega. The companero is pointing to this area on the map over there.

On 27 January groups of former Somozist guardsmen ambushed a border guard patrol in Los Espinos, 4 km north of Santa Maria, Nueva Segovia Department. Seven companeros of the Sandinist People's Militias [MPS] were killed.

On 18 March, in [name indistinct] valley, 10 km southwest of Santo Tomas de Nance, Chinandega Department, a counterrevolutionary band attacked a patrol of the MPS made up of three companeros. Militiaman companero [name indistinct] was killed.

On 24 March three MPS members were ambushed by a group of counterrevolutionaries in the place known as (La Danza), Chinandega Department, [number indistinct] km from the Honduran border and [number indistinct] km south of Cinco Pinos. Militiaman Companero (Ariel Quintero) died in combat.

On 30 March, in Las Lajas Amarillas, [number indistinct] km southwest of Chusmapa, Madriz Department, counterrevolutionaries treacherously murdered militiamen Companero Conrado Marin and Natalio Gutierrez.

On 22 April at 1905 hours, an exchange of fire occurred that lasted approximately 10 minutes between a patrol of border guards made up of 5 members and an official of the Interior Ministry and a group of approximately 10 counterrevolutionaries at La Lima creek, 6 km hortheast of El Espino, Madriz Department.

At 1930 hours on 27 April, 30 counterrevolutionaries attacked El Gallego border post, 10 km southwest of Somotillo, in a thwarted attempt to seize the post. Our troops inflicted wounds on two of them and killed one. The counterrevolutionaries took his body back toward Honduran territory. This happened practically on the border.

And on 28 April, yesterday, at 2200 El Gallego border post was attacked again--this is 10 km southwest of Somotillo, Chinandega Department--with machinegun and mortar fire. This happened yesterday at 2200. It was also reported that (?there is) infiltration by counterrevolutionary elements in (?six) sectors. Of the six, the following are most significant:

On 6 April between 0700 and 0800 hours, a group of 25 counterrevolutionaries penetrated our country at (Los Mobotes), 6 km north of San Jose de (?los Remates). These persons were dressed in olive-drab or civilian clothing, armed with [word indistinct] and pistols and penetrated 500 meters across the border.

We are now going to relate--also briefly--the activities of (?the army) and the Honduran Army at the Nicaraguan-Honduran border from January to April.

This year the Honduran Army has carried out 17 provocations and attacks consisting of shots at our border posts and patrols from Honduran territory as well as the deployment of troops for the purpose of protecting counterrevolutionary activities in that sector. These have been concentrated in the sectors between Palo Grande and (Empariador) Hill, Chinandega Department.

On 11 January Honduran troops from their territory launched three (?assault) grenades against the Palo Grande border post, 8 km southwest of Somotillo, Chinandega Department.

On 17 February Honduran Army troops fired on three companero border guards who were patrolling the area of El Rincon, 1 km southwest of Santo Tomas del Norte, Chinandega Department. It is known that in this attack they used large-caliber arms--one rocket and one Carl-Gustav (?84-mm) rocket launcher, two grenade (?launchers), FAL and Galil rifles, one 60-mm mortar (?base plate)--which you will be able to see later.

On that same day Honduran troops were deployed to Guasaule, 8 km southwest of Somotillo, set up artillery and started engineering work.

On 24 April the Honduran Army carried out operations in the sector of (Boca de Guanplan), (?17) km southwest of Wiwili, Jinotega Department, with the new objective of picking up the former guardsmen and reconcentrated them in Arenales, in Honduras, 20 km northeast of Murra, Jinotega Department.

On 2 April former national guardsmen attacked a patrol of border guards at (El Guazaulelito), Nueva Segovia Department, these withdrew immediately to Honduras. From the Zacatera post, it was observed that there was heavy movement of camouflaged military vehicles belonging to the Honduran Army.

On 7 April at 0300 a group of six counterrevolutionaries entered through Guasaule sector and attacked the border post. In answering the fire, the border guards were attacked with machinegun fire by the Honduran Army's border guards. At the same time, Honduran soldiers were deployed along the border.

On 25 April at 0640 the same border post was attacked by counterrevolutionaries (?while) soldiers of the Honduran Army were deployed along the border and [words indistinct] against our troops, covering the retreat of this element.

On 27 April at 1930 the border post was attacked by Honduran guards, who used mortars, machineguns and flares for their operations. A soldier of the EPS border guard, Julio Estrada Padilla, was wounded.

In addition, the Honduran Army has engaged in nine air violations over Cinco Pinos, Santo Tomas de Nance, San Pedro de Potrero Grande, Somotillo, all in Leon and Chinandega Departments [words indistinct] here at (La Magli), (Zero Z-15), Jalapa, (Juanito) in Nueva Segovia Department, with transport [word indistinct] planes and with (?T)-33 combat planes.

We likewise note the infiltration into our territory of two members of the Honduran Public Security Forces. This occurred on 19 April at the place known as Las Brisas, 8.5 km southwest of Santa Maria, Nueva Segovia Department. They had been dispatched by the Honduran Armed Forces to carry out acts of operational intelligence for the purpose of determining the (?location) of our military units, the (?state) of our forces and (?media). These elements, who were infiltrated, were captured and after my appearance will be presented to all of you, all of the prisoners.

We also wish to point out that (?these activities) have been backed by a series of political activities and dangerous statements by some spokesman for the Honduran Armed Forces and politicians. Maj Julio Hernandez [as heard; Armando] Pavon, chief of public relations of the Honduran Armed Forces, on a television program on 2 March, a program known as "Military (?Productions)," made an appeal for the formation of a common front, asserting that the danger of war with Nicaragua was unavoidable. It must be stressed that this broadcast came at moments of very strong psychological (?impact) to (?prepare) the armed forces against our country, our people, as well as to (?instigate) the Honduran people and the former Somozist guards in Honduras against our revolution.

Col Gustavo Alvarex Martinez, chief of the Honduran Public Security Force, assured that the Honduran Armed Forces can become a stabilizing factor in the region, but a stabilizing factor from the viewpoint of the counterrevolutionary interests of reaction and imperialism in Central America.

Then there are some elements like Ricardo Zuniga Augustino, leader of the National Party of Honduras, who has said that all Hondurans without political distinction will take up arms if they are invaded. In this case he was referring to us. He also said that it is hard for a country to tolerate this sort of thing for too long. He said in this connection with alleged attacks on their territory by our government and army.

In Comayagua Zuniga Agustino also said that his party's current campaign does not represent political activity but a struggle for the defense of Honduras that turns this campaign into a redeeming hope for Central America in the face of criminal doctrines that destroy their own peoples. At first we thought he was referring to El Salvador but obviously they were referring to us.

On the other hand, it is also important to note that the Honduran Constituent Assembly approved some decrees this year that from the constitutional standpoint authorize the armed forces to decide about the presence of Honduran troops in any country, in this case Nicaragua. In other words, these decrees give the armed forces more autonomy to make their own decisions above and beyond the government. They also enable the military sector to authorize the passage of foreign troops through Honduran territory. Under these decrees, this decision will be mainly in the hands of the armed forces command. These steps further escalate the aggressive measures that the most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Armed Forces have been carrying out in recent months.

Furthermore, several Honduran papers, EL HERALDO among them, are serving as organs of the Somozist counterrevolution. Also a very powerful radio station is currently operating on Honduran territory, practically with the acquiescence of the authorities. The station is operated by the 15 September Legion, a counterrevolutionary Somozist force that currently aims its broadcasts at Nicaraguans in the Atlantic area, mostly in the northern part of Puerto Cabezas.

The propaganda campaign of the Nicaraguan Revolutionary Democratic Alliance, another counterrevolutionary Somozist organization, has also been stepped up recently in Honduras, as has the propaganda of the National Liberation Army of Nicaragua and of the Special Anticommunist Forces. These counterrevolutionary organizations have intensified their activities in Central America, particularly in Honduras, by stepping up their propaganda activities and openly urging people to join their forces in Honduras. Among other things, they have already managed to draft a government program.

The recent activities of these counterrevolutionary organizations coincide with the armed actions carried out at the border by the Somozist bands and the most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Army.

It is also worth mentioning a recent statement by Col Daniel Bali Castillo, chief of the 11th Battalion, stationed on the border with Nicaragua, in the Chinandega area. Among other things Bali Castillo said that Honduran territory has been trampled on and that these actions are sponsored by pawns of international communism who, in their attempts to introduce an ideology, seek also the social decomposition of Central America as a whole. This is a recent statement and LATIN reports it today. Bali Castillo is a very reactionary officer, as can be seen from his statement. (?It is a matter of concern to us that he is chief of) the troops stationed on the border with our country.

We also wish to refer to the statement [words indistinct] the deputy economy minister. According to Ramon Medina Luna, commercial relations with Nicaragua were broken the very instant our two countries decided to close their borders to the import of merchandise. This statement is not completely accurate and is being used [words indistinct] and armed activities to create a climate of tension and conflict between the Honduran and Nicaraguan Governments.

Furthermore, [words indistinct] information when we talked about the 27 April clash in [words indistinct]. Three counterrevolutionaries, identified as William Peralta Navarrete, Alirio Reyes Baquedano and Juan Reyes, were killed. The Honduran newspaper EL HERALDO reported this, adding that the Sandinist forces had killed them and describing us as tyrants. In other words, EL HERALDO confirms the counterrevolutionary activity and the (?ease) with which counterrevolutionaries act in Honduras in their effort to create conflicts and engage the Honduran Army in an adventure involving our force.

We also want to note the statement by the Honduran Armed Forces public relations director who said a large number of soldiers have been deployed 20 km from the border with Nicaragua. In other words, he has confirmed the movement of Honduran soldiers to the Nicaraguan border.

We must also point out here that some news agencies such as AP have issued tendentious dispatches which reported the closing of the border when this had not taken place.

In a televised statement, Maj Julio Armando Pavon indicated that the Honduran military authorities are extremely concerned about the provocations of the Sandinist People's Army but that they have remained calm in the face of the threatening acts and the (?Nicaraguans') desire to turn the country into a battleground. This is another of the official statements of the Honduran Armed Forces which try to blame us for the current situation.

To conclude, we want to refer to a news dispatch datelined 29 April from Mexico in which the Latin American Committee of Solidarity speaks of a military plot in Honduras to overthrow president Gen Policarpo Paz. Regarding this report, we want to say that this might be a partial explanation for the quite strong reactivation in recent weeks of the acvitities of the armed counterrevolutionary bands on the northern border and the provocations by some units of the Honduran Armed Forces against our forces.

As this report from Mexico states, it seems that the most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Army, on behalf of the interests of imperialism, reaction, the warmongering sectors and the most reactionary circles of the U.S. Government, held a meeting early in April--some say it was held in San Pedro Sula; others say it was in the port of Tela. It was a meeting of the high command of the Honduran Armed Forces, essentially the military chiefs who have direct command of troops. They analyzed Honduras' current situation, noting that the Liberal Party might gain power. They believe the Honduran military should not let the liberal forces come to power because, according to them, those forces are dangerous to the military's interests; therefore, a way has to be found to stage a military coup against Policarpo Paz in order to prevent the Liberal Party from reaching power.

At the same time, it can be logically deduced that this measure of the most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Armed Forces also sought to strengthen the maneuvers to create a climate of conflict between the Armed Forces of Honduras and Nicaragua in order to justify a coup against Policarpo Paz who, according to this report and others, does not represent a real [word indistinct] to handle the government in Honduras due to sentimental, personal or other reasons.

If this situation is true, it could explain the increase in this armed activity because they are creating conditions to provoke a coup in Honduras. Of course, at the same time the pretext that the Nicaraguan revolution is a factor of instability, as the most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Armed Forces have charged, also serves the warmongering sectors of the United States to justify the unusual and tremendous increase during the past 2 months of the U.S. supply of military materiel, including communications equipment, advisers and all types of provisions, to the Honduran Armed Forces.

If we analyze this, on the one hand the situation permits them to partly resolve this [word indistinct] and instability in Honduras [words indistinct] and on the other, also to strengthen the most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Armed Forces for a possible interventionist maneuver against the Nicaraguan revolution.

We must not forget that in Honduras there are thousands of Somozist counterrevolutionaries, former Somozist guardsmen who fled to Honduras when the dictatorship was defeated. They have been returning in the past months and weeks. These Somozist sectors, which act freely in Honduras and which attack our forces at the border, are linked to the most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Armed Forces. Along with other more reactionary sectors, these Somozist counterrevolutionaries could on their own create more elements of conflict to further compromise the Honduran Armed Forces against Nicaragua.

Therefore, even if this maneuver is supposedly to solve an internal problem in Honduras, it is very dangerous because the Somozists want to involve the Honduran Armed Forces in a conflict with us in order to justify a greater division. One cannot even rule out that the Somozist bands on the border are the ones which on some occasions are attacking the Honduran Armed Forces from Nicaraguan territory which they have entered at night or dawn. In this way they seek to provoke conflict with our forces. We don't rule this out because the counterrevolutionary forces unquestionably want to fully involve the Honduran Armed Forces in a war with us as soon as possible. The most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Armed Forces also want to get involved in a war with us so they can resolve their problem. In view of this, this situation is very dangerous. We believe it can create a conflict that can get out of the control of those who are directing it on the part of imperialism and of the most reactionary Honduran sectors. This situation could create a problem of greater instability in the area and could be used by the enemies of our revolution to justify a military aggression against our revolution.

Therefore, we want to take advantage of the presence of the world's newsmen in our country to tell them to struggle against this maneuver of the counterrevolutionaries, reactionaries and imperialists who want to bring instability to the Honduran Government to hinder the strengthening of the progressive forces in the areas and to attack our Sandinist revolution, our established government and our hard-working and patriotic people.

We will now present the prisoners so you can have evidence of the activity of the counter-revolutionary bands supported by the Honduran Armed Forces. We must point out that these prisoners are Hondurans.

[Question] State your full name.
[Answer] I am Francisco Chavez Sauceda.

[Question] Where are you from?
[Answer] I am from San Antonio de Oriente, Francisco de Morazan.

[Question] What is your nationality?
[Answer] I am Honduran.

[Question] What is your occupation?
[Answer] I work for the Honduran Army in the Public Security Forces. [Words indistinct] led by Andres Trejos.

[Question] What were you sent to do here?
[Answer] I was sent to talk to some people who were in Nicaragua.

[Question] I am going to ask you something and I want you to think before you answer.
[Answer] All right.

[Question] What was the specific mission you had here?
[Answer] To talk to a lady who was in Nicaragua and [words indistinct] information related to Honduras.

[Question] What kind of information were you going to get?
[Answer] The kind of information they needed was where the Sandinist People's Army camps were in Las Brisas.

[Question] Why were you going to get that information?
[Answer] We weren't told that, but just that we had to get the information and where the Sandinist border patrol was.

[Question] Who sent you on this mission?
[Answer] Andres Trejos.

[Question] How long have you been in the armed forces?
[Answer] Two years.

[Question] Where did you enlist?
[Answer] In the municipality of El Paraiso, Danli, where I received my training.

[Question] What kind of training did you receive?
[Answer] In the handling of weapons and how to talk to one's superiors.

[Question] Who were your leaders in the armed forces?
[Answer] Lieutenant Martinez, Sergeant Iria, Sergeant Torres and a Sergeant Amador.

[Question] What kind of training were you given before coming to Nicaragua?
[Answer] [Words indistinct] we were told to behave as if we were residents of Nicaragua so as not to make anybody suspect or [words indistinct]. That's why we were sent, so we would not have any [words indistinct]. We came unarmed.

[Question] Why were you sent unarmed?
[Answer] So as not raise any suspicions.

[Question] What other instructions were you given before coming here?
[Answer] To talk to several people over here who send information to Honduras; in other words, we came to meet several people who provide information to the Honduran people, the Honduran Army, that is.

[Question] Who gave you your instructions?
[Answer] The final instructions were given by Sergeant Amador.

[Question] Where?
[Answer] In Jicaro.

[Question] What route did you follow?
[Answer] [Words indistinct] Sergeant Iria came from Los Llanos about 0500. We were expected and would meet in El Paraiso. [Words indistinct] to El Jicaro, from where we were taken to El Zamorano in downtown Tegucigalpa. We were given 50 lempiras for expenses so as not to raise suspicions among the family.

[Unidentified speaker] Another spy is going to be presented. Where were you born?
[Answer indistinct]

[Question] How long ago did you join the Honduran Army?
[Answer] Eight months ago.

[Question] Where were you sent when you first joined?
[Answer] I was recruited in El Paraiso, Honduras.

[Question] And where were you sent from there?
[Answer indistinct]

[Question] What kind of training did you receive?
[Answer indistinct]

[Question] How long were you at the garrison in [name indistinct]?
[Answer] Eight months.

[Question] Then where were you sent?
[Answer] To Las Manos.

[Question] At whose orders?
[Answer] Capt Andres Trejos.

[Question] What did you do in Las Manos?
[Answer indistinct]

[Question] What kind of work did you do?
[Answer] [Words indistinct] the Nicaraguan commando units, see how many were there and how many weapons they had.

[Question] How long did the course last?
[Answer] Eleven days.

[Question] How many people were given the course?
[Answer indistinct]

[Question] Where were the others sent?
[Answer] Some to Las Trampas, others to [name indistinct], others to El Jicaro, others to Rincon Largo.

[Question] What were they going to do?
[Answer] We were to see how many people were in each commando unit and how many weapons they had.

[Question] Why were you doing that?
[Answer] The guardsmen wanted to attack Nicaragua.

[Question] When were they planning to attack Nicaragua?
[Answer] On 25 May.

[Question] From what side?
[Answer] At La Mata de Platano.

[Question] How did you find that out?
[Answer] Capt Andres Trejos told me.

[Question] How much money were you given?
[Answer] Just 50 lempiras.

[Question] Who gave it to you?
[Answer] Juan Amador.

[Question] How long was the mission going to last in Nicaragua?
[Answer] Only 2 days.

[Question] Where were you arrested?
[Answer] In Las Brisas.

[Question] Who was with you?
[Answer] Companero Francisco Chavez Sauceda.

[Question] How have you been treated by the Sandinist authorities?
[Answer] [Words indistinct] this is a people's army.

[Unidentified speaker] Companero newsmen, please, return to your seats. This is the end of the presentation of the two prisoners. We beg you please to go back to your seats in an orderly fashion. The junta members are going to answer five questions especially from the international correspondents here. We also announce that you will be given some printed material on the various acts of aggression staged along the border against our people and our revolution. First, Captain Sanchez is going to explain something.

[Sanchez] First of all, we want to insist that the companeros sit down and be quiet because we are going to begin the question and answer period which cannot take place if there is no order. At this time, we are distributing a document with the chronological order of the aggressions against Nicaragua from Honduran territory. We want to clarify that the questions to Companero Commander Humberto Ortega must only be on what has been mentioned here. We will begin the question and answer period. The microphone should be passed to the companeros asking the question. The companero asking the question should identify himself and the media for which he works.

[Unidentified speaker] We ask the companeros asking the questions to raise their hands, and identify themselves and their news media. We repeat that the companero leaders are going to answer five questions since they and we also have a commitment tonight to attend the [words indistinct] presentation at the Ruben Dario Theater. The companeros can begin asking their questions.

[Question] [Name and news media indistinct] I would like to know if mercenaries of other nationalities are involved in this plan?

[Daniel Ortega] [Passage indistinct] We all know of the existence of training camps in U.S. territory where Cuban and Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries are training and preparing to come to Honduran territory and carry out their aggressive plans from there.

[Question] (Daniel Cupas) of the MARKA newspaper of Lima. I would like to know if this type of provocation [words indistinct] revolutionary Nicaraguans?

[Daniel Ortega] The first measure (?perhaps the fundamental one, we think) that our revolution has adopted is strengthening the country's defense. We feel that the arguments presented here are sufficiently forceful to silence those who have been trying to deny this reality here in Nicaragua, presenting it as a fabrication of the revolutionary leaders. They will also silence those who have acted similarly abroad. So we feel that our first defensive step against that type of plan, provocation and aggression, is strengthening our country's defense, strengthening the army, strengthening the Sandinist People's Militia, strengthening the security bodies, the intelligence and counterintelligence bodies and strengthening the police--in other words, strengthening the peoples' organization for defense.

This does not mean that we are not obliged to take international steps because it is a matter of preserving peace in Central America. It is a matter of preventing bloodshed in Central America and of preventing greater sacrifices from our people who have already given so much in their struggle for liberation.

This is why today we got in touch with Honduran President Gen Policarpo Paz. We talked to him and we are considering the possibility of meeting with him and with the military commanders willing to do this. The revolutionary government wants to defend peace and to seek stability in the area. We are firmly determined to defend our territorial integrity and this is why we see the strengthening of our country's defense as the principal guarantee.

[Question] Mr Morals of INTERNEWS magazine. Don't you believe that this series of actions that appear to be unconnected might actually be part of a high-level intelligence operation directed by the Pentagon; that the actions of the Somozist groups on the Honduran border might in some way be intended to divert attention to that area while the invasion is launched somewhere else; and that the internal conspiracy, the actions of mercenaries who are operating in the country may also be connected to the training camps in Miami, to the actions in Honduras and to international actions, such as the boycott attempts and the international aggressions in the (?social), economic and political areas?

[Daniel Ortega] We cannot separate these activities from a number of incidents that are occurring internationally. It is necessary to clearly note the responsibility of the U.S. Government because the attitude of the U.S. Government, its tolerance of those camps in Miami, simply encourages counterrevolutionary activities in countries like Honduras and Guatemala.

We believe that the United States bears a great part of the blame. The economic aggression that it has launched against our country must also be added to its tolerant attitude toward the camps in Miami and the statements made by high-ranking U.S. officials, who have said that Nicaragua [words indistinct] in the activity that has been carried out from Honduran territory.

[Unidentified speaker] We thank the companero newsmen for their presence today. [applause]

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING WITH HONDURAS TO BE REQUESTED

PA010355 Paris AFP in Spanish 1634 GMT 30 Apr 81

[Text] Managua, 30 Apr (AFP)--Nicaragua will request a high-level meeting to end the misunderstandings which have created a tense situation with Honduras in the border zone in the past hours.

The Nicaraguan ambassador to Honduras, Guillermo Suarez Rivas, made the announcement after talking to Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction.

Suarez arrived yesterday for talks with his government on the conflict between Nicaragua and Honduras and returned on the same day to Tegucigalpa.

Suarez told newsmen that the situation has become tense because irresponsible news media are playing up the situation in Honduras. "We must clarify this situation and the incidents in a high-level meeting," Suarez said without mentioning who would participate in the meeting.

Meanwhile, Daniel Ortega reported that he talked by telephone with Honduran President Policarpo Paz, with whom he discussed the possibility of holding a meeting to find a permanent solution to the problems with that country.

Suarez does not think the case merits international mediation, and he suggested that the talks between Honduras and Nicaragua be held at the heads-of-state level or between the high staffs of the two armies.

Suarez also asked the Honduran news media "to stop using warmongering language," indicating that no one wants a war between the two countries right now when they both have so many problems.

Finally, Suarez said that the main problem is that the Somizists are free to act in Honduras, and he added that Nicaragua is ready to present evidence that the training camps of the former Somozist guardsmen are operating with the knowledge of the Honduran military.

NEWSMEN'S ASSEMBLY UNCOVERING MISINFORMATION PLOT

PA010410 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Apr 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The imperialist plot of misinforming the world about Nicaragua is falling to pieces. Following its second day of work, the deliberations of the meeting of world newsmen--which has gathered together more than 150 newsmen from all over the world--continues with a firm step in its task of breaking down the wall of lies that imperialism has been building up throughout the world.

It is becoming clear that, through the transnational news agencies, lies are being told and reports about Nicaragua and its revolution are being distorted on purpose. Not only that, but the background and objectives of this campaign are losing their naive disguises and revealing their aggressive purposes.

After each country's report was presented, the almost unanimous coincidences regarding the type, focus and orientation of the reports contrary to the Nicaraguan revolutionary process that the transnationals disseminate throughout the world reflect a common purpose: that of clearing the way for aggression.

The principal method for misinformation is no different from that used by the Somozists in the past: The main guideline is to ignore the people. Only when the Nicaraguan people and their vanguard overwhelmingly broke through to give the Somozist regime the coup de grace were the monopolies unable to continue hiding the truth.

But, following the 19 July revolutionary victory, a web of silence began to be woven again around the people's efforts and accomplishments and, once again like yesterday, the traitors to the fatherland occupied the limelight of the news scene via the transnationals.

This plot--which reflects the ideological postulates of the CIA and the State Department and follows the precedent set in previous aggressions against other peoples--is now being implacably revealed at the world newsmens assembly.

Quite a few delegations highlighted the fact that, following the taking of office of the new U.S. Government headed by Ronald Reagan, these campaigns have taken on a particular virulence and are complemented by the impunity with which the counterrevolutionaries make declarations and train in the United States.

The increase in acts of provocations by the former guardsmen who are being sheltered in Honduran territory, acts which complete the picture, also was not ignored by the newsmen meeting in our capital. As the imperialist plans to attack Nicaragua are being uncovered, the world newsmens assembly has become, not just a meeting of militant solidarity with our people, but also a working session in which, as the curtain of infamy is being lifted, irrefutable evidence is being presented regarding the threats looming over the revolution.

In this regard, the extensive and detailed presentation by Humberto Ortega, commander of the revolution and defense minister, to the local and international newsmen has converted the assembly into an enormous international sounding board for announcing the fact of the aggression against Nicaragua.

The other face of the revolutionary truth is in the Sandinist people, in the laborers and peasants, in the workers who, mobilized on 1 May, will fuse the national dignity of the people of Sandino with the international solidarity of all the newsmen present in our country whose labor of information will counter the silence and lies with the massive presence of a people who are ready to defend their freedom at any price.

CTN-CUS TO SPONSOR SEPARATE LABOR DAY CELEBRATION

PA301420 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Interview with Enrique Velarde, Nicaraguan Workers Federation secretary general; date, place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Where are you going to celebrate Labor Day?
[Answer] We are going to meet by Las Palmas Church. The Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions [CUS], the other independent labor organization is also participating. The Nicaraguan Workers Federation [CTN] and CUS secretaries general will be the main speakers. There will be other speakers who will refer to matters of interest to the workers.

We are celebrating Labor Day apart from the Sandinist National Liberation Front and the Labor Coordination Organization because as independent workers organizations we feel we should be free to make our own plans and not have one imposed by the political party and the group in power, who are interfering with and intervening in the workers' organizations. At our ceremony we are only going to have the Nicaraguan flag and CTN and CUS banners.

[Question] Considering that there is an interest in uniting the workers under a single union, why haven't you talked to the Labor Coordination Organization to plan a single big event?
[Answer] Look, brother, we have had many talks with them. We insist that the workers should be free to organize a Labor Day celebration and to discuss their problems and solutions instead of having decisions imposed on the workers by the Labor Coordination Organization, decisions we know very well the workers have not approved and that are coming from the political party and the group in power. That is why we are cooperating with the Labor Coordination Organization. The Labor Coordination Organization is receiving orders from sectors that are not interested in defending the workers' interests.